

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 93 22:33:16 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #301
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Wed, 10 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 301

Today's Topics:

A pair of coax <-> ladder line ???
 FT-767GX mods for FDX?
Ham Radio Outlet incident (3 msgs)
 Help!, mobile noise
 IC-970 mods?
 Int'L Contacts Database
 Intruder watch
KB5WRK call me please on moto.
 License delays
 source for spools of wire
 Speaking your mind

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 10 Mar 93 22:37:39 GMT
From: news.tek.com!tekig7!tekig6!royle@uunet.uu.net
Subject: A pair of coax <-> ladder line ???
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

>I was once told that I can get the same efficiency benefits of open-wire
>line by using a pair of coaxial cables, shorting the shields together at
>both ends, and using the two center conductors as the actual antenna leads.
>My source told me that this was not only as efficient as ladder line but
>also gave most of the shielding benefits of coax, and that I could bury the
>cables or in general just not worry about what they ran close to the way I
>would with ladder line.

>Is this true? Can I really hook such an arrangement up to a random length
>vertical and a ground plane, put a transmatch in my shack, and get good
>performance?

>. . .

>Kip Ingram
>N5RYK

Two pieces of coax connected as you describe have twice the length of (lossy) center conductor and twice the impedance of a single piece, resulting in very nearly the same loss as a single piece of coax. At high UHF or microwave frequencies, the dielectric loss will become a factor and the two pieces of coax will be worse than a single one.

Your question is easy to answer if you understand *why* ladder line is more efficient than coax in the first place. At frequencies below about 1 GHz, the dielectric loss in coax is negligible compared to the resistance loss of the conductor. (This assumes good-quality dielectric such as polyethylene or Teflon.) The conductor has a surprisingly high loss because the current flows only in a very thin layer near the surface. The thickness of this layer decreases as frequency increases, causing the loss to increase with frequency. (The shield, having a much greater area, presents only a small amount of loss compared to the center conductor.)

Both conductors of ladder line, on the other hand, frequently are as small as or smaller than the center conductor of common coax. So why is the loss less? The answer is that ladder line usually has a much higher characteristic impedance than coax. As a result, there's less current for the same amount of power transfer. The lower current, in turn, creates less loss as it flows through the resistive wire. All else being equal, the fraction of power lost is inversely proportional to line impedance.

Roy Lewallen
W7EL
royle@tekig6.pen.tek.com

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 21:32:06 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!
icon.rose.hp.com!greg@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: FT-767GX mods for FDX?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This is a long shot, but I'll ask anyway...

Are there any mods to the Yaesu 767GX tranceiver to allow it to run in full duplex cross-band, like the 736R? I want to try to access the RS-10 microsat, but using my DX-440 shortwave receiver for the downlink is just not cutting it.

Thanks,

Greg KD6KGW

Date: 10 Mar 93 21:35:13 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!rphroy!link.ph.gmr.com!vbreault@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <randall.731623999@seashore> randall@informix.com (Randall Rhea) writes:

A very interesting thing happened to me at Ham Radio Outlet in Sunnyvale last week.

<Stuff deleted here and there without further notice...>
<You've already read the original post anyhow.>

I certainly thought this was a strange exchange, but then I realized what he was talking about. A few weeks ago, I posted an article in reply to someone who was unhappy with the service at HRO. I responded that I had received both good and bad service there

So then I thought, was I being unfair to HRO in my article?

NO! You were doing what was right for YOU. You were being a customer. Customers tell others about their experiences, both good (word of mouth advertising) and bad. That's what customers do.

The most important thing that any provider can realize is that there is a consumer for whatever the provider produces, and that the consumer is THE MOST IMPORTANT person in the world. More important than market share, more important than happy stockholders, more important than the employees.... NUMERO UNO - THE CUSTOMER.

Customer satisfaction is more than just another 90's buzzword, it's the driving motivation behind every successful company and every company that has a plan to usurp them.

Everyone has a customer. For me, it's the engineers, scientists and technicians that depend on me for support. They, in turn, have

their own customers. Somewhere down the line, there's a non-employee customer, but all I have to do is focus on the next guy down the line from where I work.

Should I appreciate the fact that "volunteers" work behind the counter on Saturday?

As a customer? -NO- The kind, number, qualifications and pay scale of the personnel in the store is the managers responsibility. If there is a personnel problem then it's up to the manager to correct the problem or live with the consequences. The fact that the counter was staffed with volunteers gave no additional benefit to the customers, and may have even deprived the customers of the benefits that a seasoned, paid employee could offer.

Well, I went back and re-read my article, and I stand behind everything I said. HRO is a for-profit institution, not a charity.

As such, it should expect to be evaluated in the same light as other for-profit institutions (banks, auto dealers, restaurants...).

I am a customer, and I think I deserve good service.

Well.... Maybe "deserve" is too strong a word. I don't think that we're entitled to good service due to moral or written law, but there are certain ~laws~ of good merchandising that declare that a companies future depends in large measure upon how they treat their customers.

"we're just volunteers" is not an excuse.

I don't think so either. It may be a darned good REASON, but it makes a rather poor excuse. Excuses should be used VERY sparingly, especially in the business arena.

it did make me feel very strange- certainly not like a welcome customer.

Uh, oh... Red Flag time... Here's a guy that started out calling himself a customer ("go there all the time", "\$3000 there over the last couple of years") and by the end of the letter he's beginning to feel unwelcome. If it were my store I'd want to phone Mr Rhea and see if I could fix things up. Depending on how things went, I may even want that employee (if he really was an employee) to speak with Mr. Rhea.

(Like Randall, I too have had experience dealing with people in a retail environment. Retailing is an unflinching task master, but one can live with it quite peacably if a few simple facts are

observed. The most important of which is to treat each customer with the highest respect. I learned this principal while pumping gas a long long time ago. I followed this principal as a mechanic after that and I promoted that principal as a manager. So strong was our customers' support that they would routinely leave their cars with instructions similar to the ones that Mrs. O'Connor gave us: "We're going on a vacation trip and Jim said to bring the car in to have it looked over. He said to do whatever needed to be done and he'll be in after work today to settle up on the bill." On a number of occasions we'd find cars parked off to the side when we arrived to open the shop, their keys and instructions in an envelope inside the mail drop. WE MAY HAVE SCREWED UP A NUMBER OF OTHER THINGS, BUT WE HAD A DARNED GOOD GRIP ON THAT CUSTOMER SERVICE BUSINESS.)

Question of the day: Would you revisit a restaurant that gave you the same kind of service that you gave to your customers today?

--

Val Breault - N80EF - vbreault@gmr.com \ /|
Instrumentation dept GM NAO R&D Center \ / |
My opinions are not necessarily those of \ /__|
GMR nor of the General Motors Corporation \ / |___

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 22:49:46 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!ttinews!calvin.tti.com!
cole@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <randall.731623999@seashore> randall@informix.com (Randall Rhea) writes:

>
> A very interesting thing happened to me at Ham Radio Outlet in
> Sunnyvale last week. I was admiring the new Kenwood TS-50 mobile
> rig when a gentleman who appeared to be the manager approached me.
> "Are you Randall Rhea?" he asked. I didn't know I was a celebrity.
> "Yes I am" was my reply. "Well, look, the people who work for me
> here on the weekends are volunteers." He appeared to be a bit
> perturbed. He then walked away. I then felt quite wierd, put back
> the items I was going to purchase, and walked out of the store.

Maybe I missed a clarification, but did you interpret this as:

1. The people who work for him on the weekends don't get paid at all,

2. The people who work for him are paid HRO Sunnyvale employees but are not required to work weekend shifts unless they choose to do so, or

3. He's being sarcastic.

Gee, maybe I'll open a ham radio store and put out a call for volunteers. I hope my employer doesn't find out about this new trend. Recent Presidents have asked for a new spirit of volunteerism, but this is ridiculous. I wonder if George Bush gave his "Thousand Points of Light" award to any HRO volunteers?

Randy Cole
KN6W

Date: 10 Mar 1993 23:00:54 GMT
From: sun-barr!west.West.Sun.COM!l1-a!flloyd@ames.arpa
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <01GVN9JL12LU8Y4X90@IRIS.UNCG.EDU> MOSIER@iris.uncg.EDU (Steve Mosier) writes:

>Randall Rhea noted:

>

>> The only thing critical about my article was my
>> indication of continued displeasure over HRO's failure to put prices
>> on their parts and accessories. I don't like having to wait in line
>> at the counter just to find out about prices for items that are on
>> the shelf, and neither does any other customer.

>

>Amen to that. This is also a common practice with the New York camera
>dealers. And I don't like seeing ads with "CALL" in place of the price
>for either cameras or radios. Have you noticed the ad(s) in QST with an
>entire page filled up with "call" after every single item!?! So as a
>general policy, if the price isn't listed, I don't read the ad. And I
>don't order from them, or go to their store. That may cost me a little

You're right. It may indeed cost you a little. On the other hand, the words "CALL" often equate to "We'll beat or match any price that any other dealer is offering". Therefore, if you're disposed to mail order shop, then not calling these types is amounts to denying yourself a potential gain.

The whole pricing thing is not as straightforward as one might think. All manufacturers set an MSRP (Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price) for their equipment. An MSRP is often calculated to give the dealer something along the lines of a 30 to 40 percent margin. Next, the

dealer network looks at these margins and decides that 20 percent is sufficient to keep them alive provided that they can keep the volumes up. Since we're in the information / telecommunication age, everybody instantly knows what dealer X is listing his products for. Dealer Y comes in, decides to "buy" the market and launches a campaign with goods priced at 15 percent over cost. Not to be outdone, Dealer Z comes in at 10 percent and so on, and so on....

What you end up with is a price war that nobody (not even AES) can win since at some point there's no margin left regardless of volume. Even the consumer loses since businesses go bankrupt and service becomes non-existent.

Enter advertising. So you're a new dealer and you decide to advertise at prices which are 10% over cost. Sales are brisk for about a month until somebody else jumps in at 9.99% and suddenly your phone goes dead quiet (yes, many hams will abandon all dealer loyalty to save less than a dollar). So what do you do? Next month, you publish "CALL" instead of prices. People start calling again....

Finally, advertising deadlines for major magazines like QST and CQ are a full 90 DAYS before publication. In an economy where prices are apt to fluctuate without warning, dealers are unwilling to place their bets on a 90 day horse. Remember, once its listed it's gospel and the phones go absolutely dead if the price is one cent higher than the going rate.

-fred

--

[Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ	Fred.Lloyd@West.Sun.COM]
[Sun Microsystems,	Southwest Area Solaris Transition Manager]
[Phoenix, AZ	(602) 275-4242]

Date: 10 Mar 1993 17:02:09 GMT
From: topaz.bds.com!topaz.bds.com!ron@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Help!, mobile noise
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

What kinds of food go well with alternator wine?

-Ron

Date: 10 Mar 93 18:51:25 GMT

From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!spool.mu.edu!hri.com!noc.near.net!gateway!miki!
wpns@ames.arpa
Subject: IC-970 mods?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Anyone know of any mods or secret keystroke sequences for the Icom
IC-970? I got the service manual a couple of days ago, and there are
a couple of diags modes, but I'm sure there must be more!

Thanks :== fn(reponse)

--
Willie Smith
wpns@pictel.com
N1JBJ@amsat.org

Date: Mon, 08 Mar 1993 02:24:06
From: munnari.oz.au!jabaru.cec.edu.au!csource!gateway@tcgould.tn.cornell.edu
Subject: Int'L Contacts Database
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> From: terence robert slywka <tslywka@silver.ucs.indiana.edu>
> Organization: Indiana University
>
> I hope everyone will be interested. Please send e-mail to me
> directly at:
>
> Bitnet: TSLYWKA@IUBACS
> Internet: TSLYWKA@UCS.INDIANA.EDU
Greetings Terence

I sure am interested. Tell me more?

Leroy

X KWQ/2 1.0C X "Beam me up Scotty, there's no intelligent life here"

* Origin: Biz-Nice! S.Oz Business BBS! 4 Lines 08-269 7029/7809 (3:800/851)

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 21:52:05 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!hellgate.utah.edu!cs.utexas.edu!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!
wupost!waikato.ac.nz!aukuni.ac.nz!grimwood@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Intruder watch
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Here in ZL we have a monitoring service which monitors those bands assigned to Amateur radio on an exclusive use basis, and reports any intrusions to the appropriate authorities. A list is also published in "Break-In", the monthly journal of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART). Does anyone know if such a list is available through this net, and if not, then _why_ not? Seems like a good idea, as it might help facilitate the removal of unauthorised parties from our hard-won turf. Comments?

73 de Tony, ZL1TTG

--

Tony Grimwood, ZL1TTG grimwood@ccu1.auckland.ac.nz
Biomedical Engineering Services
University of Auckland
Auckland, New Zealand

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 20:55:54 GMT
From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!hawk!hawk@uunet.uu.net
Subject: KB5WRK call me please on moto.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

From: Will Collier <COLLIER@gallant.apple.com>

CLIP CLIP-----

>John Gilbert johng@ecs.comm.mot.com

John,

I greatly appreciate that information! Once I get my hands on the manual/schematics it should answer many questions.

I certainly hope we can get this beast up and running as a fire repeater here in Buda. Sounds like it may be a challenge!

Thanks again,

Will Collier
KB5WRK
Buda, Tx

=====

Will, please call me for help ASAP!

regards,
George Hawkins

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George Hawkins                      Internet: hawk@hawk.sps.mot.com
Motorola Digital Signal Processors  UUCP: cs.utexas.edu!oakhill!hawk!hawk
Semiconductor Products Sector      Motorola Internal Email - R12137
6501 William Cannon Drive West     Phone (512) 891-4543
Austin Texas 78735-8598             FAX   (512) 891-2947
-----
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Date: 9 Mar 1993 21:05:29 GMT
From: topaz.bds.com!topaz.bds.com!ron@uunet.uu.net
Subject: License delays
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
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> Regardless how you cut it, the VEC cycle adds at
> least a week onto the process.

A good team and the ARRL VE seems to be better than that. I Fed-X the exams to the league the next day. I usually get a snail mail postcard saying the session was received in order by the end of the week.

On the other hand, the teams do have 10 days to get things back to the VEC, and the VEC could hold on for longer.

-Ron

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Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 22:53:10 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!hellgate.utah.edu!cs.utexas.edu!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!mycroft.jpl.nasa.gov!ring@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: source for spools of wire
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
```

In article <1993Mar10.001803.8474@convex.com> tonyp@convex.com (honey bunny) writes:

>From: tonyp@convex.com (honey bunny)
>Subject: source for spools of wire
>Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 00:18:03 GMT

>I need to get wire. Lots of wire. About 3,000' (holy rhombic, batman!)

>

>Does anyone know of a place that will sell small lots to the public?

>

>PHYSICS QUESTION:

>-----

>

>What is the best gauge to use - seeing as it will be spanning about

>600' non-stop (between tie points)?

>

>Is stranded or solid better?

>

>--

> Tony J. Podrasky Why does your dog keep staring and growling at me?

> San Diego , Ca Because he thinks you're stealing his food from

him.

> tonyp@convex.com Why would he think that?

>QSL? QRU? QRZ? QLZ? QFA? Well, you *are* eating out of his dish...

If you like mail-order, I've gotten good service from Digi-Key.

They put out a 250-page catalog of electronic components, including wire.

They're at 1-800-DIGIKEY.

Warren Ring / AB6QE "Why is there air? --- Bill Cosby

Date: Wed, 10 Mar 1993 22:08:46 GMT

From: pacbell.com!att-out!cbfsb!cbnews!cbnewsm!jeffj@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Speaking your mind

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar10.190410.2127@cbnewsm.cb.att.com> jeffj@cbnewsm.cb.att.com (jeffrey.n.jones) writes:

>In article <C3nMHr.8AL@feenix.metronet.com> marchbg@feenix.metronet.com (Marc Grant) writes:

>

>Business in the USA generally takes the attitude that customers are a

>nessecery evil. If some store owner took exception to what I had posted

>ask Sears how it feels to lose customers, because you are treating me

>and probably others like they did theirs. They barely survived losing

>losing most of theirs and I guarentee that you won't. If the owner is

>too big of an idiot to listen and he will be, there are lot's of other

>places to shop. As a reasonable customer I deserve excellent service

regards,
George Hawkins

George Hawkins
Motorola Digital Signal Processors
Semiconductor Products Sector
6501 William Cannon Drive West
Austin Texas 78735-8598

Internet: hawk@hawk.sps.mot.com
UUCP: cs.utexas.edu!oakhill!hawk!hawk
Motorola Internal Email - R12137
Phone (512) 891-4543
FAX (512) 891-2947

Date: 10 Mar 1993 22:29:29 GMT
From: sun-barr!news2me.EBay.Sun.COM!west.West.Sun.COM!l1-a!flloyd@ames.arpa
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <C3nMhr.8AL@feenix.metronet.com>,
<1993Mar10.190410.2127@cbnewsm.cb.att.com>,
<1993Mar10.220846.8025@cbnewsm.cb.att.com>
Subject : HTX-202 Modification (NEW!)

MODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE RADIO SHACK HTX-202 HT

Includes: MARS/CAP and out of band Transmit/Receive

Parts Needed: 1/8" Mono phone plug, 1/8" stereo phone plug, and a subminiature mono phone plug (I don't know the size but it's like the one found on speaker mics), misc hookup wire, small diameter shielded audio cable.

- Remove Battery, cover contacts with scotch tape for safety.
- Remove antenna, knobs and all case screws
- Carefully split radio open, being careful not to damage wiring
- Locate speaker wires. Using fine tipped soldering iron, remove speaker wires.
- Locate PPT switch. Again, using fine tipped soldering iron, remove wires from PTT switch.
- Locate Resistor R-55 and Diode D-21
- Attach a 4" shielded wire (audio grade) to the PTT switch,

and another 4" shielded wire to the speaker.

- Locate electret condenser microphone. Re-route wire from microphone to microphone jack on top of radio. Series connect the PTT switch coax and the microphone to the jack.
- Connect the coax now attached to the speaker to the speaker half of the headphone jack.
- Reassemble radio case.
- Fabricate a patch cable using the parts listed above. The two mono plugs on one end and the stereo plug on the other.
- Test cable using ohm meter.
- Locate an (out of band modified) Icom W2A handheld.
- Set the Icom W2A to any desired transmit/receive frequency.
- Connect the stereo phone plug to the W2A speaker mic jack.
- Connect the two mono phone plugs to the HTX-202.
- Replace antenna on HTX-202
- Verify all connections.

The HTX-202 will now transmit and receive on any frequency that the W2A is capable of.

Note: This mod has not been verified.

-fred :-)

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[Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ	Fred.Lloyd@West.Sun.COM]
[Sun Microsystems,	Southwest Area Solaris Transition Manager]
[Phoenix, AZ	(602) 275-4242]

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #301
